A proclamation for resysting and withstandyng of most dampnable heresyes/ sowen within this realme/ by the disciples of Luther and other heretykes/ peruerters of Christes relygion.

THe kyng our souerayne lorde/ of his most vertuous and gratious disposytion/ consydryng that this his noble realme of Englande/ hath of long tyme contynued/ in the true Catholike fayth of Christes relygion/ And that his most noble progenytours/ kynges of this his sayd realme/ hath before this tyme made and enacted/ many deuout lawes/ statutes and ordynaunces/ for the mayntenaūce & defence of the sayd faith/ agayne the malycious and wicked sectes of Heretykes and Lollardes/ Who by peruersion of Holy scripture/ do enduce erronyous opynions to werk sedicion among Christen people/ and finally do disturbe the peace and tranquillite of Christen realmes/ as late happened in some partes of Germany/ Where by the procurement and sedicion of Martyn Luther/ and other Heretykes/ were slayne an infynite nombre of Christen people. Consydryng also/ that as well by the corruption and malyce of indiscrete preachers/ fautours of the said erronyous sectes/ as by certayne heretycall and blasphemous bokes/ lately made and priuely sent in to this realme/ by the disciples/ fautours/ and adherentes of the sayd Martyn Luther & other Heretikes: Where by the kynges subiectes be lykely to be corrupted/ onelesse his highnesse (as Defensor of the Faith) do put to his most gratious helpe & authorite ropall/ to the due & spedy reformation therof. His highnesse therfore/ lyke a most gratious prince/ of his most blessed and vertuous disposition/ for the incōparable zele/ whiche he hath to Christes religon and Faith/ & for the synguler loue and affection that he beareth to all his good subiectes of this his realme/ & spectally to the saluation of their soules/ accordyng to his office & dutie in that behalfe. Wylleth and intendeth to proup de with all cōuenyent expedicion/ that this his noble realme may be preserued from the said pestiferous/ cursed/ & seditious errours. And for asmoch as his highnesse is credibly enformed/ that some of the said errours be alredy sowen & spredde within this his realme/ partely by the corruption of indiscrete preachers/ partely by erronyous bokes/ cōpyled/ printed and wrytten/ as well in the Englysshe tong/ as in latyn & other langages/ replete with most venemous Heresyes/ blasphemies & sclaunders intollerable/ to the clene eares of any good Christen man: His highnesse therfore/ lyke a most gratious & Christen prince/ only entēding the safegard of this his realme/ the preseruation of his subiectes & saluation of their soules/ wylleth to put now in execution/ with all diligence possyble: all good lawes/ statutes & ordinaūces cōcernyng the premysses before this tyme prouyded/ made/ & ordayned by his most noble progenitours/ kynges of Englāde/ for that purpose & entent: Whiche lawes & statutes by our said souerayne lorde & his most honorable counsayle/ by long & delyberate aduyse/ for thexpiracion/ suppressyng & withstādyng of the said heresies/ haue bene sene & examyned/ and by them in euery parte thought good & necessary to be put in execution. Wherfore his highnesse chargeth & straitly cōmaundeth/ all and euery his lordes spūal & temporall/ Iuges/ Justices of the peace/ Shyrifes/ Mayres baylifes/ Cōstables/ and all other his officers/ mynistres/ and all his true & louyng subiectes: that all fauour/ affection & partialite layd apte/ they effectually with all diligēce and study/ endeuoir them selfes substancially/ to therexecuyng of all & euery the articles hereafter ensuyng/ without dissimulation/ intermission or excuse/ as they wyll auoyde his highe indignation and displeasure.

¶ First that no man within the kynges royalme/ or other his dominyons/ subiectes to his highnesse/ here after presume to preche/ teche/ or instructe any thynge openly or priuely/ or compyle & wrytte any boke/ or holde exercyse/ or kepe any assembles or scoles/ in any maner of wyse/ cōtrary to the catholyke fayth/ or determinacion of holy churche. Nor that any pson within this his sayd realme & dominyons/ do presume to preache openly or secretely/ without they haue fyrst optayned licence of the byshop of the dyoces/ where they entende to preche/ Curates in their parisshes/ plons priuileged/ and other by the lawe of the churche onely except.

¶ Also that no man wyttyngly hereafter fauour/ supporte or maintayne any pson/ whiche precheth in fourme aforesayd/ or that maketh any suche or like cōuenticles & assembles/ holdeth or exercyseth any scoles: maketh/ wrytteth or publysheth any such boke: techeth/ informeth/ or sheweth the people/ or any of them/ in any maner of fourme to the sayd errours. Moreouer/ that all and euery person & plons hauyng any bokes or wrytynges/ of any suche erronyous doctrine & opinyon: do delyuer or cause to be delyuered effectuelly/ and actuelly/ all & euery suche bokes and wrytyng/ to the byshop of the dioces/ or to the ordinary of the place/ within .xb. dayes after this proclamacion pronounced. ¶ And in case any pson or persone/ of what estate/ condicion/ or degree so euer he or they be: do or